(b) the details of the plans chalked out in this regard;

(c) the total expenditure likely to be incurred in this regard;

(d) what will be the role of the State Governments in this regard; and

(e) the number of school sponsored to be established in the State of Goa and the expenditure and other details involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Central Government has decideod to setup 6000 high quality model schools at the block level, at the rate of one school per block, as benchmarks of excellence. The first phase of the scheme to set up 2500 Model Schools in educationally backward blocks (EBBs) under the State Governments was launched in November, 2008.

(c) An amount of Rs. 12,750 crore has been allocated for this scheme for the 11th Five Year Plan, and Rs. 350 crore has been provided in the budget for 2009-10.

(d) For the schools to be set up and managed by State Governments, land is to be provided by the State Government concerned, which also has to bear 25% of recurring and non-recurring cost during the 11th Plan. The share of special category States is 10%. Medium of instruction, affiliating Board and admission policy are to be decided by the State Governments.

(e) Eventually, every block is likely to have a model school. However, in the first phase, there is no proposal to set up model schools under the State Government in Goa, as the state does not have any educational backward block. In blocks other than EBBs, schools are envisaged under public private partnership.

Participation of Indian students in research

†2682. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's participation in the field of research at international level is very low;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor together with the details thereof;

(c) the number of students who get enrolled for pursuing Ph.D degree in our country as compare with those in America and China along with the number of students who complete their Ph.D; and

(d) the percentage of students who take admission in higher education in our country as compare to those in developed countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) While there is no study by the Central Government to establish India's position in the field of academic research, the Task Force on Strengthening Basic

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Science Research in Universities under the Chairmanship of Professor M M Sharma set up by the Central Government, has observed that there is no formal linkage between universities and national-level research institutions and the same should be promoted through joint research projects and training and that the number of PhDs in Sciences and Engineering disciplines from Indian Universities is quite low *viz-a-vis* the number of M Sc / B Tech when compared to what it is in developed countries.

(d) The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in Indian higher education is estimated to be about 12.4 %, as compared to estimated world average of 26 % and 55% in developed countries.

Unexpensive education for children

†2683. SHRI GANGA CHARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the arrangement being made by Government to provide unexpensive and best education for the children from poor families;

(b) whether Government is going to make any arrangement for providing low cost education in private and Government schools and institutes;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Article 21A, as inserted by the Constitution (Eighty-Sixth Amendment) Act, 2002, provides for free and compulsory education of all children in the age group of six to fourteen years as a fundamental right in such manner as the State may, by law, determine.

Consequently, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill, 2008, has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha. The Bill, *inter-alia,* provides that every child in the age group of six to fourteen years shall have the right to free and compulsory education in a neighborhood school till completion of elementary education.

In Government and Government-aided private secondary schools across the country, the fees charged are generally nominal.

Transparency in higher education

2684. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal to regulate fees, admission etc. of deemed universities;

(b) whether Government also proposes to probe complaints of lack of transparency in higher education; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The University Grants Commission (UGC), in its meeting

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.